



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northeast Fisheries Science Center
166 Water Street
Woods Hole, MA 02543-1026

January 29, 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR: Northeast Fisheries Observer Program Observers

FROM: David Potter
Branch Chief, FSB

SUBJECT: Sea Turtle Guide

Enclosed is a copy of Sea Turtles of the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts of the United States. This guide contains general information about Sea Turtles including, but not limited to, evolutionary history, mating behavior and diet/feeding. The guide also contains species accounts for Leatherbacks, Loggerheads, Kemp's Ridley, Olive Ridley, Green Turtles and Hawksbills.

This guide will be extremely helpful, especially due to its Appendix. The guide contains the following keys that include detailed sketches:

- (1) Key to Living Animal or Fairly Fresh Carcass, Intact Animal
- (2) Key to a Fairly Fresh Carcass, Head Missing
- (3) Key to Fairly Fresh Head Only
- (4) Key to Fairly Fresh Carcass, Head and All Limbs Missing
- (5) Key to Plastral Bones Only
- (6) Key to Skull Only

This guide should be with you for all deployments. It also is required to be returned if you decide to leave the Northeast Fisheries Observer Program.

If you have any questions regarding this new guide, please contact Betty Lentell at (508) 495-2141 or Betty.Lentell@noaa.gov.

